

# **CONTINUOUS PROCESS FOR RECOVERING ACETONE FROM A WASTE STREAM RESULTING FROM ACETONE PURIFICATION**

## **Abstract of the Disclosure**

The present invention provides a continuous process for recovering acetone from a waste stream from an acetone purification stage. The waste stream contains mesityl oxide and optionally acetone. The process for recovering acetone includes separating the waste stream in a separating device at least in one stream containing mesityl oxide and optionally a further stream acetone, then concentrating mesityl oxide in the mesityl oxide containing stream, and finally recycling the concentrated mesityl oxide stream to the separating device and bringing it into contact with a basic or acidic aqueous medium or with an acidic catalyst in the presence of water whereby mesityl oxide is at least partially hydrolyzed to acetone.